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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/006,544	11/30/2001	Yoon Kean Wong	25216-0868.	1008

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EXAMINER

PATEL, NITIN

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2673

DATE MAILED: 05/04/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/006,544

Applicant(s)

WONG ET AL.

Examiner

Nitin Patel

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 February 2004.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-32 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-32 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1-32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Want et al., (U.S. Patent No. 5,825,675).

As per claim 1, Want shows An electronic device (In Fig.1A) comprising: a user-interface configurable to have a selected orientation about at least a first axis (In col.7 lines 58-67); wherein the user interface includes a plurality of input features (In col.4 lines 30-35), a detection mechanism (In col.4 lines 29-27 position sensor) and display controller) to detect orientation information about the electronic device; and one or more components configured to select the orientation (in Fig.3A and 3B and In fig.4 A and 4B flip buttons In Col.6 lines 6 lines 57-62)of the user-interface feature based on the detected orientation information, and to configure the user-interface feature according to the selected orientation, wherein the selected orientation is based on at least a first reference point on the first axis(In Fig.3a and 3b) and at least one of functionality of the plurality of input features is based on the selected orientation(in col.8 lines 10-23).

As per claim 2, want shows wherein the user-interface feature is symmetrically disposed about a first axis, and wherein the selected orientation defines a reference indication on the first axis (In col.5 lines 22-37).

As per claim 3, Want shows the user-interface is symmetrically disposed about a first axis and a second axis (in fig.3a and 3B), and wherein the selected orientation defines a first reference indication on the first axis, and a second reference indication on a second axis (in col.5 lines 30-35).

As per claim 4, Want shows user-interface includes a display (element 306 In Fig.3A), and wherein the one or more components select the orientation by selecting a top-down direction on the first axis for displaying content on the display (in Col.7 lines 30-40).

As per claim 5, the user-interface includes a set of buttons disposed symmetrically about the first axis (In Fig.3A and 3B), wherein the one or more components include a processor (element 180 In fig.2) that assigns functionality of each button based on a position of that button in the selected orientation (in col.4 lines 23-35).

As per claim 6, want shows wherein the one or more components include a processor (in Fig.2 element 180).

As per claim 7, Want shows one or more components include a display driver (display

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controller 164 in col.4 lines 30-34).

As per claim 8, want shows the detection mechanism includes a plurality of sensor areas that detect user-contact (in col.4 lines position sensor 170 In Col.4 lines 4 lines 31-33).

As per claim 9, Want shows the plurality of sensor areas detect orientation information by being individually accountable so that one or more actuated sensor areas form a select portion of the plurality of sensors that combine to define the orientation information (In col.5 lines 38-50).

As per claim 10, Want shows the detection mechanisms includes a first accountable surface and a second accountable surface, wherein orientation information is detected by determining which of the first and second accountable surface is actuated by user-contact (In Col.5 lines 39-48).

As per claim 11, Want shows the orientation is selected so as to configure the user-interface feature for left-handedness (In Fig.3A) or right-handedness (in Fig.3B) when one of the first or second accountable surfaces is actuated.

As per claim 12, Want shows a handwriting input mechanism (element 304), and wherein the one or more components include a processor (element 180 In fig.2) that

selects the orientation of the handwriting input mechanism to be either for a left-handed user or a right-handed user depending on the orientation information detected by the detection mechanism (in col.8 lines 24-50).

As per claim 13, want shows the plurality of sensor areas are arranged to detect a user's hand orientation when the user grips the electronic device (In Col.4 lines 30-34).

As per claim 14, want shows the user-interface includes a digital input feature of a display, and wherein the one or more components configure the user-interface according to the selected orientation by determining a position of the digital input feature on the display (In Col.5 lines 23-35).

As per claim 15, Want shows the one or more components select the orientation of the user-interface based on the detected orientation information only if the electronic device is first determined to not have been in active use for a set duration of time (In col.8 lines 52-65).

As per claim 16, Want shows a method for configuring a electronic device, the method comprising: detecting at least one user-contact in a plurality of possible detectable user-contacts (in col.8 lines 54- 60), the user interface including a plurality of input features with the electronic device (in col.8 lines 25-30); interpreting an orientation for a user-interface feature from the detected one or more user-contacts; and

configuring at least portion of the user interface according to the interpreted orientation and the step of configuring at least the portion of the user interface includes selecting at least one of a functionality of input features(In col.8 lines 38-48).

As per claim 17, Want shows interpreting an orientation for a user-interface from the detected one or more user-contacts includes determining a reference indication of the user-interface about one or more axes from the one or more contacts (In Fig.3A and 3B).

As per claim 18, Want shows determining reference indication about one or more axes that the user-interface is symmetrically disposed about (in col.8 lines 40-50).

As per claim 19, Want shows determining the reference indication includes determining a direction for content appearing on a display (in Fig.3A and 3B).

As per claim 20, want shows configuring the user-interface according to the interpreted orientation includes assigning an action to each button in a button set using the reference indication (in col.8 lines 24-25).

As per claim 21, want shows detecting at least one user-contact in a plurality of possible detectable user-contacts with the electronic device includes detecting a first button press from a set of at least two or more possible button presses (In Col.7 lines

44-47)

As per claim 22, Want shows detecting at least one user-contact in a plurality of possible detectable user-contacts with the electronic device includes detecting a grip configuration of a user from one or more sensors on a housing of the electronic device(In Fig.3A and 3B and In col.6 lines 41-50).

As per claim 23, Want shows interpreting an orientation for a user-interface includes determining a top-down vertical orientation for a display on the electronic device, and wherein configuring the user-interface includes configuring the display so as to display content according to the top-down vertical orientation (In col.8 lines 36-47).

As per claim 24, Want shows interpreting an orientation for a user-interface feature includes determining a right-left horizontal orientation for a display on the electronic device (In Fig.3A), and wherein configuring the user-interface includes configuring the display so as to display content according to the right-left horizontal orientation (In fig.3B).

As per claim 25, want shows interpreting an orientation for a user-interface includes identifying the orientation of a digital input mechanism on a display of the electronic device (In Col.3 lines 55-62 and Col.5 lines 23-28).

As per claim 26, Want shows wherein identifying the orientation of a digital input mechanism on a display of the electronic device includes selecting a position of a handwriting input area on the display of the electronic device (In col.5 lines 56-64).

As per claim 27, Want shows identifying the orientation of a digital input mechanism on a display of the electronic device includes selecting an arrangement of multiple character entry boxes for the handwriting input area appearing on the display (In fig.4A and 4B).

As per claim 28, Want shows interpreting an orientation for a user-interface feature includes identifying a reference indication for the user-interface feature based on the detected one or more user-contacts (In fig.3A and 3B).

As per claims 29,31 Want shows an electronic device (In fig.3A element 306) comprising: a display disposed symmetrically about one or more axes (in Fig.3A), the display being configurable to have a selected orientation based on a reference indication on the one or more axes (holding with left hand); a detection mechanism (display controller in fig.2) to detect orientation information of the electronic device in use based on a user's contact with the device; and one or more components configured to automatically determine the reference indication and to select the orientation of the display based on the determined reference indication(In Fig.2 and In col.4 lines 23-30 and Col.5 lines 30-37).

As per claim 30, Want shows the reference indication identifies at least one of a top-down direction or right-left direction of the display (In Col.8 lines 40-48).

As per claim 32, Want shows the orientation of the set of accountable surfaces defines an action assigned to each button in the set of buttons (In col.7 lines 21-24).

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-32 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

4. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

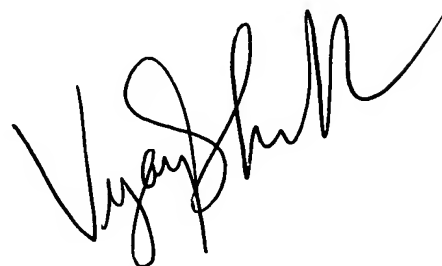
A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Nitin Patel whose telephone number is 703-308-7024. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Bipin H Shalwala can be reached on 703-305-4938. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

NP



VIJAY SHANKAR
PRIMARY EXAMINER